



HIGH DESERT HOSPITAL

August 1, 1995

TO: OSHPD

FROM: O.J. Biederman, MD OJB
Associate Medical Director

**SUBJECT: REVIEW OF THE HOSPITALIZATION OF
AUTOPSY NO.**

This case was reviewed to assess the circumstances that led to her death when hospitalized at High Desert Hospital on 12-18-91 to 12-19-91.

The patient was a 67 yr old women who was visiting her sister at the hospital when she had pre-syncope. She was evaluated and hospitalized in the ICU to rule out a serious cardiac cause. She had a past history of an aortic valve replacement in 1977, of hypertension and of elevated cholesterol. No past history of documented CAD. She did admit to occasional substernal burning pain lasting a few minutes for several days.

Her initial physical examination was normal and her EKG did not suggest acute changes. She was then observed in the usual manner to rule out an MI. At 11:30 AM on the morning of 12-19-91 she developed pulmonary edema and hypotension and, in spite of intensive RX in the ICU, had a cardiac arrest. The EKG at this time showed diffuse Sub endocardial changes. Her private cardiologist was consulted and the plan was to stabilize the patient and to transfer her to AVH for cardiac catheterization. It was not possible to stabilize her condition and she continued to have arrests and could not be resuscitated.

She was pronounce dead at 6:29 PM 12-19-91. On review we find that this case was managed appropriately.

Thank You.